

GRANGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1939.

Ulverston,
August, 1940.

Gentlemen,

Circular 2067 of the Ministry of Health directs that the Annual Reports of Medical Officers should be curtailed as much as possible and should be confined to essential and urgent matters which may have affected the public health.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT. It is not necessary for me to repeat that your district is subject to very careful supervision, your Inspector deals with the greatest promptitude with any complaints which may be brought to his notice.

WATER SUPPLY. The water supply to the district has, for some years, been a source of anxiety and last year was no exception. On account of the uneven distribution of the rainfall, which was below the average, it was necessary to impose severe restrictions upon the supply during the autumn, whilst the rainfall of the later months of the year was never sufficient to completely fill the reservoirs. Efforts have been made to arrange for an increase in the quantity of water transferred from Chapel House Plantation, and an application was made to the Ministry of Health for sanction to a loan and approval of a scheme, but there has been delay in dealing with the same, delay which to my mind should not arise could the two Authorities concerned realise that their interests run parallel to each other, and what will benefit the one must benefit the other. At the date of my report it is possible to say that progress of the scheme now before the Ministry is being made and it is hoped may be approved, and I am sanguine that before I have to present my next annual report we may be able to feel that there is no further need for anxiety as to a failure of the supply. Generally speaking, the quality of the water has been beyond question, but during the latter part of the year it did not reach the usual high standard which we always expect, this being due to the low level of the reservoirs.

There have been no extensions of mains during the year.

Rainfall on the Waterworks Gathering ground for the past fifteen years has been:-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>First Quarter.</u>	<u>Second Quarter.</u>	<u>Third Quarter.</u>	<u>Fourth Quarter.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1925	11.30	10.63	14.47	13.42	49.82 ins.
1926	17.61	8.66	15.43	14.27	55.97
1927	14.18	9.68	21.02	13.25	58.13
1928	23.80	11.10	19.53	23.11	77.54
1929	5.57	7.74	13.79	25.00	52.10
1930	11.68	6.57	15.57	20.08	53.90
1931	10.61	12.55	14.05	19.76	56.97
1932	10.86	12.97	15.50	17.62	56.95
1933	12.01	7.91	8.42	8.90	37.24
1934	10.86	13.20	14.89	16.57	55.52
1935	10.63	12.54	17.21	18.80	59.18
1936	12.12	6.94	15.94	18.43	53.43
1937	12.69	9.39	11.47	8.59	42.14
1938	11.21	11.33	15.88	24.05	62.47
1939	13.17	8.20	13.62	13.19	48.18

<u>Average</u>	12.800	9.680	15.139	16.796	54.415 ins.
<u>for 29 years</u>					

Previous lowest rainfall in 29 years.

1913	12.14	12.58	6.37	13.21	44.30 ins.
------	-------	-------	------	-------	------------

Previous highest rainfall in 29 years.

1928	23.80	11.10	19.53	23.11	77.54 ins.
------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------------

SEWERAGE & DRAINAGE. The sewerage system has generally continued working in a satisfactory manner, this being a combined system dealing with both sewage and rain water. A scheme has been prepared for the provision of a relief sewer to prevent flooding at the junction of Main Street and Kents Bank Road. This has been approved and will be proceeded with immediately labour and materials are available.

HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL. I am glad to be able to report that this very important branch of sanitary administration is efficiently carried out by the Council, and although the cost may be heavy, I am satisfied that no branch of work could be more satisfactory in its results. The quantities collected have been as follows:-

	Horse Loads.	Motor Loads.
1933	308	974
1934	257	1000
1935	165	1024
1936	---	1025
1937	---	1200
1938	---	1310
1939	---	1200

All refuse is dealt with at the Incinerator, some by screening and the rest by fire. During the year the following material was disposed of by sale, in addition to which quantities of clinker, etc., were used on the Council's own works.

108 loads Clinkers, Cinders and Ashes.

2 tons 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts of Glass Bottles and Jars.

87 dozen ditto.

21 tons 15 cwts Scrap tins.

Miscellaneous quantities of Scrap Metal.

DAIRIES & COWSHEDS. Quite a considerable amount of the milk supply to your district is produced in the neighbouring Rural District, but there are within the boundaries of the Grange District nine Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk whose premises are kept under careful supervision. The milk supply to the district is per table here-with.

1 Dairy for Certified and other milk

12 Dairy Farms with 120 dairy cattle (estimated) including:-

1 Producer and Bottler for Accredited milk.

9 Cowkeepers and Purveyors of milk

(The above are resident in the district).

1 Purveyor of Certified milk.

2 Purveyors of milk.

3 Cowkeepers and Purveyors of milk.

(Resident in the Ulverston Rural District).

OFFENSIVE TRADES. The only business within the district classed as such is that of a Fried Fish and Chipped Potato dealer. This business is carried on in a satisfactory manner.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES. There is only one Registered slaughter house in the district, and this is generally kept in good order. Other butchers have their slaughtering premises in the Ulverston Rural

district adjoining. The provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, have been made applicable to sheep, and the occupier has provided an electrical stunning instrument for use. This building is not in use owing to the centralisation of meat supplies.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. The district is practically a one hundred per cent water carriage one. The sanitary accommodation at the end of the year was as follows:-

Houses and farms with privies	3
-do- pail closets	1
Houses and farms and business premises with water closets	830

HOUSING. There are no slum dwellings in your district and it has not been necessary for the Authority to operate any of the Housing Acts. Any defects can be dealt with under the provisions of the Public Health Acts.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	10
Number of dwelling houses (included above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated regulations, 1925)	0
Number of dwelling houses found in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	0

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

Proceedings under Secs. 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.	0
Number of representations made with a view to making closing orders	0
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were made	0
Number of dwelling houses actually closed during the year	0

NEW HOUSES. The number of new houses built during the past nineteen years has been 314, the yearly totals being:-

1921	13	1931	6
1922	5	1932	9
1923	20	1933	9
1924	18	1934	20
1925	22	1935	23
1926	29	1936	20
1927	29	1937	20
1928	13	1938	19
1929	21	1939	11
1930	7	Total ..	<u>314</u>

Of the above, 262 have been built by private enterprise, 23 by private individuals with the assistance of subsidies, and 29 have been erected by the Council under various powers.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. So long ago as 1937 I reported upon the unsatisfactory sanitary condition of the Elementary Day Schools, and the Managers as a temporary measure, carried out some improvements. I say as a temporary measure, because at the time it was agreed that in the near future a new school would be provided which would mean that the accommodation of the present school would be satisfactory. Unfortunately, like many other things, the war emergency has made it necessary to abandon all thought of proceeding with the scheme for a new school, although all preliminary stages have been completed.

<u>SANITARY WORK.</u>	Statutory Notices issued	0
	-do- complied with	0
	Informal notices served	5
	-do- complied with	5
	Factory inspections	8
	Workshops & Workplaces inspections	70
	Bakehouse inspections	12
	Slaughter house inspections	12
	Dairies and Cowsheds	30
	Offensive trades inspections	2
	Rooms disinfected	12
	Bedding destroyed	1
	Blocked drains cleared	5
	House drains repaired	4
	Rat nuisance abated	2
	School milk samples taken	5

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of district .. .. ..	..	1884 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres
Population -do- 1921 census ..	..	2920
	1931 census ..	2648
Inhabited houses .. .. ..	..	760
Rateable value .. .. ..	..	£27,432
Amount produced by penny rate ..	..	£104

POPULATION. There is not any great variation in the population of Grange from census to census and I think we shall be quite safe in basing our statistical calculations upon the population as enumerated in 1931.

BIRTHS. During the year there have been 6 births, producing a birth-rate of 2.2 per 1,000. In the year 1938 there were 13 births producing a birth-rate of 4.8 per 1,000.

Seasonal distribution of births:

	Male.	Female.	Total.
In the first quarter	2	1	3
Second	1	1	2
Third	-	1	1
Fourth	-	-	-
TOTALS	3	3	6

DEATHS. To calculate the death-rate it is first necessary to take the total number of deaths which occur, subtract from this total the deaths of non-residents and add to the result the deaths of residents occurring outside the district. For the year under review 43 deaths of residents occurred which equals a rate per 1,000 of 16.2. In 1938 there were 35 deaths, the death-rate being 13.2 per 1,000.

Age periods at which deaths occurred.

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Under one year	..	1	-	1
Between one and 65	..	7	3	10
65 and upwards	..	14	18	32
Totals		22	21	43
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

Seasonal distribution of the deaths.

		Male.	Female.	Total.
In the First quarter	..	7	8	15
Second	..	4	4	8
Third	..	6	3	9
Fourth	..	5	6	11
Totals		22	21	43
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Bronchitis	..	2	1	3
Meningitis	..	1	-	1
Heart Disease	..	5	10	15
Cancer	..	2	3	5
T.B. Peritonitis	..	-	1	1
Pneumonia	..	4	-	4
Arterio-sclerosis	..	1	2	3
Apoplexy	..	4	3	7
Nephritis	..	2	1	3
Congenital Defects	..	1	-	1
Totals		22	21	43
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

INFANTILE DEATHS. At this age period, that is infants dying before reaching the end of their first year, there has been one, the Infantile death-rate being equal to 166.6 per 1,000 births. In 1938 there was one death at the same age period. This rate per 1,000 would at the first glance appear to be unusually high, but we have to remember that in dealing with such a small birth-rate the calculation is bound to be misleading.

TUBERCULAR DISEASES. Two cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs have been notified, one a female aged 20 and the other a male aged 57, and there has been one death from Tubercular Peritonitis in a female aged 34. Cases of Tuberculosis are transferred to the Tuberculosis Officer of the County for treatment.

CANCER. Five deaths have occurred during the year from Cancer of various organs, equal to a death-rate per 1,000 of the population of 1.8. In 1938 the death-rate from this disease was 3.0 per 1,000, a very satisfactory improvement, but one which, as we are dealing with a population of old and middle-aged people, we must not be certain of maintaining.

Organs affected.	55 - 65.		65 upwards.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Neck	1				1
Gall Bladder ..			1			1
Prostate..	..		1		1	
Stomach		1		1	
Breast			1		1
Totals		1	2	2	2	3
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

ZYMOTIC DEATHS. Four deaths from Pneumonia have been registered.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATION. I have not received any notifications of the ordinary infectious diseases during the year. Only one case of Pneumonia has been reported.

Notifications received during the years from 1930 to 1939.

	<u>Typhoid</u> <u>Fever.</u>	<u>Scarlet</u> <u>Fever.</u>	<u>Diph-</u> <u>theria</u>	<u>Cerebro</u> sp. <u>Fever.</u>	<u>Erysip</u> <u>elas.</u>	<u>Pneu-</u> <u>monia.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
1930		2	1				3
1931		2					2
1932				1			1
1933							
1934	1						1
1935		2	1				3
1936		4					4
1937		4					4
1938		2	1		1	1	5
1939						1	1
 Totals	1	16	3	1	1	2	24

HOSPITALS. Tubercular Diseases are treated by the Lancashire County Council who have a Hospital for diseases of this class at High Carley, near Ulverston, whilst the Hospitals at Kendal are available for the treatment of the ordinary infectious diseases and Small Pox.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. Motor ambulances are available for all classes of diseases.

LABORATORY WORK. Every facility is given to Medical Practitioners as regards Laboratory work, which is undertaken quite free of cost, and all sera are provided.

In concluding my report I must not neglect to express my gratitude to your Surveyor for his valuable co-operation at all times and to the Council for their ready support.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. PATTERSON.

L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., D.P.H. Lond.
Medical Officer of Health.

26th August, 1940.

